

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

Accreditation Committee Members

Accreditation Committee Convenor

Carole Wilkinson

Carole is a social worker by profession and spent over 30 years working in the public sector in England and in Scotland. Her career has included social work practice, managing a range of social services, teaching social workers and social care staff in higher education and most recently overseeing the establishment of the Scottish Social Services Council the body that regulates social service workers and their education and training. She has contributed to the development of workforce strategies for the care sector at the request of Scottish Government, participated in the Social Work Review set up by Scottish Ministers and undertook lead roles in examining the workforce needs of staff in older peoples services and residential child care. She has a particular commitment to the development of front line staff and ensuring the qualifications for this group of staff are flexible and equip them to do their jobs in challenging times.

Committee Members

Martin Hunter

Martin represents the Federation of Small Businesses on the Accreditation Committee. Martin retired from a management position at BT in December 2000, after 26 years with the company. He is currently the owner of MH Training and recruitment and CEO of HH Contact Services Ltd, contact centre in Prestwick.

Martin is involved with a number of committees: he is as a member of the FSB Scottish Policy Committee, Chairman of FSB Ayrshire, Vice Chairman of West of Scotland Regional FSB Committee, member of the Ayrshire Tourism Partnership and also of the Ayrshire Economic Forum.

Valerie Mann

Val originally joined Bank of Scotland, in the Mortgage Department in 1983. After a move to England for a short period, Val returned to Edinburgh in 1989 to begin a career as a Scottish Law Accountant working in a series of large Edinburgh law firms. This was followed by a move to the Legal Office of the NHS in Scotland to run the Law Accountants and IT department in 1993.

Val joined Lloyds Banking Group as the Resource Manager for the Intelligent Finance, IT Department in 2001, progressing to the Group Change Management department, the core Change function for the Bank, as the Head of Operations in 2006.

As Head of Operations Val oversees, operationalises and embeds key risk and regulatory policies, HR related strategies, business performance measurement and colleague communications.

During her time with Group Change Management Val has piloted the Go4IT initiative which is designed to encourage young females into a career in IT and also led an internal programme to recycle and re-use unused IT hardware. This programme has generated savings of £2-3m per annum for the Bank.

Steve Brodie

Steve joined Rolls-Royce in 1989 as an Apprentice Engineer. Since then he has completed various positions within the company and is currently responsible for the delivery of Modern Apprenticeships at Rolls-Royce's new facility at Inchinnan, Renfrewshire. Steve is committed to self development. He has achieved National Certificates in Engineering, Higher National Certificates, a Diploma in Management and a BA in Human Resources. He is also a member of the Careers Scotland - College School Collaboration National Steering Group and the Scottish Committee for LifeLong Learning in Engineering.

Paul Campbell

Paul began his career as an apprentice in the water industry in 1993 where he worked in water industry operations sector for seven years before he moved on to become a technical skills trainer and SVQ Assessor in 2000. Paul then moved into Organisational Development (OD) in 2002 as an internal OD Consultant within Scottish Water and is now Scottish Water's Skills Development Manager.

Paul also represents the Scottish Water Industry on the Water Industry Skills Steering Group (WISSG) with responsibilities for identifying national skills priorities, projects and policy arrangements for the UK Water Industry.

Keith Quinn

Keith began his career as a Social Worker with Fife Regional Council and later moved on to a post in Social Work Staff Development where he was responsible for Practice Teaching and the development of the SVQ Assessment centre. In addition to Keith's full time job, he also trained and undertook SVQ external verification for the joint CCETSW/SQA Awarding Body. Keith then moved on to work in Higher Education

Karen Adams

Karen Adams is an Educational Projects Manager with NHS Education for Scotland (NES) and has worked in educational development for adults for more than 25 years. She began her career as a language teacher and teacher educator, working in the UK, Eastern Europe and North Africa, before moving into educational management and consultancy. Prior to joining NES in 2006, Karen was Head of Professional Development for MRS, the UK's professional body for market, social and opinion researchers. During this time, she was responsible for establishing MRS's suite of professional qualifications for researchers, and developing the organisation's training portfolio. In her current role, Karen leads on the development of an Education Framework for Administrative & Support Services for NHSScotland. She is also involved in NES's work to help embed the Scottish Credit & Qualifications Framework (SCQF) within learning for NHSScotland staff.

Janet Brown

Janet took up post as Chief Executive of SQA in 2007. Since then she has worked closely with the Executive Team and Board of Management to refocus the activities of SQA as it plays its part in ensuring that Scotland has a high quality, flexible, forward looking qualifications system able to adapt to the ever changing needs of its society and economy.

Prior to this, Janet was Managing Director of Industries at Scottish Enterprise. She joined Scottish Enterprise in January 2000 after 19 years working in the private sector in the United States. Janet has extensive experience in science research & technology as well as business management acquired in her previous positions with Motorola, SEMATECH and AT&T Bell Laboratories.

Born in Sheffield, Janet holds a BSc in Physics and a PhD in Physical Metallurgy & Materials Science, both awarded by the University of Birmingham. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and a Governor of the Glasgow School of Art.

Willie Gallagher

Willie is an experienced Executive Director with proven track record in strategic business planning, organisational change management and developing and delivering successful businesses and projects.

He joined the South of Scotland Electricity Board from Glasgow University after achieving an honours degree in Electrical Engineering. He developed an extremely successful career in SSEB and then ScottishPower over a 20 year period. Key roles included Director of Operations, Director of Customer Services and Director of Deregulation. He was voted "Outstanding Individual of the Year" by Utility Industry peers in 1999 for his contribution to the UK Retail Deregulation Programme.

In 2000, he left ScottishPower and established Touchdown Services Limited, a company to provide specialist Consultancy & Engineering services to Utilities. The Company is now well established and works with a variety of Utilities in UK, Ireland.

From 2006 to 2008, Willie was Executive Chairman of Transport Initiatives Edinburgh (tie), the company owned by the City of Edinburgh and tasked with the delivery of the Edinburgh Tram Project.

Willie has also held a number of important non-executive roles:

- Lothian Buses – Non Executive Director 2000 to 2008
- Transport for Edinburgh Ltd (TEL) – Non Executive Director 2005 to 2008
- Scottish Legal Aid Board – Non Executive Director 2000 – 2008
- Strategic Rail Authority – Non Executive Director 2000 – 2006

He is a Chartered Engineer and holds a MBA from Strathclyde Business School.

Sylvia Halkerston

Educated in Aberdeen, Sylvia has had a long career in Human Resource Management. Most of her experience has been in the private sector with exposure to many industries - Oil & Gas, Hospitality, Construction, Public Transport and Food & Drink, but she also has experience working in and with the public sector. She recently retired from her role of Human Resources Director, Macphie of Glenbervie Ltd after twenty years, but continues to carry out some consultancy work related to HR and people development.

At every stage of her career she has been involved with and committed to Education/Industry Links from a Management Training initiative for teachers through Enterprise Awareness for teachers to the successful Schools Industry Challenges covering both Secondary and Primary. She has also built strong links with Further and Higher Education. She has also had the privilege to study with the Walt Disney Corporation.

She is currently Chairperson of the Scotland Food & Drink Skills Academy; a member of the Scottish Funding Council/Skills Development Scotland Joint Skills Committee; Scottish Qualifications Authority's Advisory Council and Accreditation Committee; Aberdeen and Grampian Chamber of Commerce Policy Council; and a Board member of the cancer charity support organisation – CLAN.

She was a founding director of Improve Ltd, Sector Skills Council for the Food & Drink Sector and an Advisory Board member of the Scottish Manufacturing Advisory Service and a member of the Court of the University of Abertay.

She was awarded a Director of the Year Award from the Institute of Directors Scotland and an award for her "Outstanding Contribution to Business" from the Association of Scottish Businesswomen. More recently she was made a Burgess of the City of Aberdeen. In June 2012 she was the first recipient of the prestigious "Top Cherry" award at the cHeRries awards – for her outstanding contribution in the field of Human Resources.